

Comment Letters

-----Original Message-----

From: Shawn Berry [mailto:shawn_berry@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, December 21, 2015 11:41 PM
To: Frevert, Kathy@Waterboards
Subject: Comments on Proposed Regulatory Framework

Hi Kathy,

I am an applied mathematician (BS Mathematics, MS Mathematics) who lives in Redwood City, CA and who has studied drought for years now. Despite some rain at present this winter due to a big El Niño, which last appeared in 1997/8 (18 years ago), California is locked in a permanent drought., again a permanent drought.

Please do not reduce California's 25% water restrictions. First, the 25% reduction was based off terribly wasteful water habits. For instance, my wife and I and our 2-year old daughter live in a 3,000 square foot house that uses 2-8 CCF per month. In contrast, similar homes in our Bear Gulch district use, on average, 10-times as much water! We need stricter water restrictions to meet our future water needs 10 or 20 years from now.

The state of California is reducing our groundwater supplies so quickly that the Earth has run dry in Tulare Country, CA, which is a precursor to widespread groundwater drought statewide in coming years. With the groundwater gone, the Earth there has sunk 20 feet or even 30 feet. I am sure that you are aware of thousands of long-serviced wells 50 feet deep that have run dry in just the last few years. Again, our groundwater supplies -- built over one hundred thousand years -- have been sucked dry in a matter of decades. Continue and intensify our much needed water restrictions!

